

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Complete Listing of Claims

Claims 1 - 7 (canceled)

1 Claim 8. (currently amended) A system for extending a signal path of a host bus
2 comprising:
3 a first repeater portion connected to a first segment of the host bus;
4 a second repeater portion connected to a second, non-hierarchical
5 segment of the host bus remote from the first segment of the host bus, where
6 the first and second portions of the repeater are connected by a serial link,
7 wherein at least one of the repeater portions further comprises:
8 an interface to the first bus segment;
9 a transaction queue with a data buffer connected to the interface;
10 a link translation layer connected the transaction queue to translate
11 incoming transactions from the first bus segment into serial streams to be sent
12 over the serial link ~~The system according to claim 5, further comprising a~~
13 transaction decode circuit connected to the interface to the first host bus
14 segment to determine which transactions on the first host bus segment to accept
15 and pass on over the serial link.

Claims 9 -14 (canceled).

1 Claim 15. (new) The system according to claim 8, wherein the serial link is
2 chosen from one of the following: LVDS, Gigabit Ethernet, InfiniBand, IEEE1394,
3 RF Wireless, Infrared Wireless, or any combination of these.

1 **Claim 16.** (new) The system according to claim **8**, wherein the host bus is a
2 PCI bus.

1 **Claim 17.** (new) The system according to claim **15**, wherein the host bus is
2 an LPC (Low Pin Count) bus as defined by Intel 1997.